

Year Book 2014-15



Azad Foundation

TRAINEES YEAR BOOK 2014-15

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Azad Foundation is happy to present its Year Book 2014-15. This has truly been a result of team effort and we are grateful to all who have contributed to it. We would like to thank the team members from different centres who have contributed in the collection of data, more specifically, Badri Narayan Sharma, Apurva Jain, Dolon Sen, Wajida Tabassum and Rama Joshi. This Year Book could not have been completed without their efforts.

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INTRODUCTION

The Year Book is an endeavour by Azad Foundation to provide primary information like name, age, education, marital status of all the trainees who underwent training and obtained their permanent license during the period April 2014-March 2015. The year book has likewise attempted to document the challenges these trainees encountered both during the training and in their personal lives.

Azad has offices in Delhi and Jaipur, Rajasthan. It has two offices in Delhi (Mount Kailash, (head office) and Model Town, North Delhi. There was an office in Gurgaon, Haryana, which has since been closed down. Most of the trainees come from resource poor families with sufficient distinction in their age, education and marital status. A total of 31 batches underwent training during the year 2014-15 (April to March). There were nine batches each in the Mount Kailash and Model Town offices; six batches in the Gurgaon office and seven in the Jaipur office. Trainees from these batches who have acquired a permanent license have been highlighted in this Year Book.

A total of 110 trainees acquired a permanent license in the year 2014-15. They have varied educational qualifications and the age range is also wide.

Azad hopes that these motivated women become torch bearers for other women and thus claim a space for themselves in the vocation which has so far been considered a male bastion. The journey has just begun!

NEW DELHI

SOUTH DELHI

BATCH 28

- 1.**
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|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Name: | Pooja Saha |
| DOB: | 03/06/84 |
| Education: | Class 6 pass |
| Locality: | ITO |
| Date of joining: | 2.12.13 |
| Date of permanent license: | 13.6.14 |
| Marital status: | Separated |
| No. of children: | 1 |




Pooja is a single mother with one son. Her relationship with her husband was one of violence and abuse. She has no support either from her own parents or parents-in-law. Pooja lives in a small rented accommodation with her son. She used to stitch clothes before she came into the Azad fold. She enrolled herself for the training programme because she saw it as a good opportunity to earn a decent livelihood. She was a fast and keen learner. She attained her permanent license within six months of joining but did not go for the Sakha test.

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- 2.**
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|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Name: | Aaliya Bano |
| DOB: | 02/02/87 |
| Education: | B.A. |
| Locality: | Badarpur |
| Date of joining: | 2.12.13 |
| Date of permanent license: | 7.5.14 |
| Marital status: | Unmarried |
| No. of children: | 0 |



Aaliya lives in a family of seven with her brother as the only earning member. Before joining Azad, she used to do stitching and made enough money to pay for her education. She was told about the training at Azad by a neighbour, who had previously worked in the organisation. Aaliya saw in it an opportunity to improve her family's financial condition and decided to join. People around her would question her choice of work and tell her that it was not a profession meant for women but she persisted. She had to face problems during the training and would often not be able to drive properly out of fear. But over the course of time, she overcame all her fears. Having completed her self-drives successfully, she is all prepared for the Sakha test.

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Azad Foundation

BATCH 30

- 5.** **Name:** Ripu Devi
 DOB: 05/01/1985
 Education: Class 10 pass
 Locality: SaritaVihar
 Date of joining: 12.2.14
 Date of permanent license: 2.8.14
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 2



Before she got to know about Azad, Ripu was a housewife. Her husband was jobless. But he supported her decision to join Azad. Before she stepped into Azad, she was scared to even go out of her house and talk to anyone. Having gone through the different training modules at Azad, Ripu is a changed personality altogether. Now she is able to speak for herself and her rights and moves around on all the different roads of the city. She wants to be able to earn enough to fulfill all the needs of her children so that they can proudly say that it is because of their mother's efforts that their dreams are being fulfilled.

- 6.** **Name:** Ruma Sharma
 DOB: 18/12/80
 Education: Class 10 pass
 Locality: Badarpur
 Date of joining: 12.2.14
 Date of permanent license: 02.08.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Ruma was influenced to join Azad by a Sakha driver who lives in her colony. Coming from a family where her mother earned very little money by working in a factory, Ruma was determined to do something to improve her condition. Her father lived in the village and visited them once a year. She has brothers who earn, but only enough to feed their families. She came to Azad with her mother's support. When her brothers came to know, they were not happy, but she continued training. She changed a lot during this time and also learnt to speak her mind. She has now got her permanent license and wishes to become a professional chauffeur.

BATCH 31

- 7.** **Name:** Barkha Jainwal
 DOB: 05/04/94
 Education: Class 12 pass
 Locality: Badarpur
 Date of joining: 4.4.14
 Date of permanent license: 4.9.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Barkha had known Azad for about two years before she decided to join it. She got motivated on seeing other girls in her area going for the training and moving ahead in life. She would get inspired seeing commercial drivers who could drive with so much ease. She likes her training as it gives her the strength to face the world. She is now able to move around in the city with less fear and has also got a permanent license.

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- 8.** **Name:** Renu
 DOB: 15/9/91
 Education: Class 12 pass
 Locality: Badarpur
 Date of joining: 4.4.14
 Date of permanent license: 1.11.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Renu stays with her parents and five siblings in Gautampuri. She joined the training even though her father was against it. He did not want her to learn driving and be independent. She was very shy and inhibited in the beginning but as time progressed, a significant change could be seen in her. She became more open and mingled with people. She also showed promise in driving once she overcame her initial fear. She has got her permanent license and is working to better her skills.

- 9.** **Name:** Seema
 DOB: 01/04/96
 Education: Class 12 pass
 Locality: Indira Camp
 Date of joining: 4.4.14
 Date of permanent license: 22.10.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



A cousin, who had already taken training at Azad, told Seema about the organisation. Her mother and grandmother encourage her to join but her father opposed their decision. She joined nonetheless. Once she came into the training process, she realised that she could make new friends and did not have to face any discrimination. She says that her fear of moving out has reduced and she is also able to drive a car confidently. She has passed her permanent license test and is now working towards perfecting her skills and getting a job.

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- 10.** **Name:** Puja
 DOB: 06/09/1987
 Education: Class 5 pass
 Locality: Gautampuri
 Date of joining: 4.4.14
 Date of permanent license: 4.9.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Pooja lives in a JJ colony and has to face a lot of difficulties everyday. Her mother took ill after the death of Pooja's brother and the responsibility of the household fell on her shoulders. She joined Azad to earn a good income and be able to take care of her ailing mother. She says that it was also her brother's dream for someone in the family to become a driver and earn well and perhaps one day, drive their own car. She is enthusiastic and eager to finish her training and start her job.

- 11.** **Name:** Pushpa Devi
 DOB: 01/04/1986
 Education: Class 9 pass
 Locality: Okhla phase 1
 Date of joining: 4.4.14
 Date of permanent license: 30.10.14
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 2



Pushpa was brought up in a relatively liberal environment. Her parents supported her and even delayed her marriage at a young age. She is now married and has two children. She wanted to join Azad in order to be economically independent and assure a good future for her kids. Before joining Azad, she was confined in the four walls of her home. Earlier if she would go out, she had to cover her head and not talk to anyone. But in Azad, she got the confidence to express herself without inhibition. Her husband respects her for that and says this change in her personality is no threat to his authority and in fact now he is relieved that she can share his responsibilities. Through her time as a trainee, she has also been able to get his full support and chart a way for herself in which she sees herself as a successful commercial driver.

- 12.** **Name:** Sufia
 DOB: 25/3/80
 Education: Class 9 pass
 Locality: Kalkaji
 Date of joining: 4.4.14
 Date of permanent license: 15.10.14
 Marital status: Separated
 No. of children: 1

Sufia relocated to Delhi from Madhya Pradesh and joined the Azad training soon after. After a very troubled marriage which was full of violence, she left behind her small daughter with her husband and came to Delhi to build a new life for herself. Though she comes from a relatively well to do family she does not take any support from her parents and stays independently. Now that she has attained her permanent license she is keen to become a professional driver.

BATCH 32

- 13.** **Name:** Sita
 DOB: 03/09/1995
 Education: Class 6 pass
 Locality: Indira Camp
 Date of joining: 11.5.14
 Date of permanent license: 27.9.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Sita lives in a big family with her mother as the sole earning member. She always wanted to assist her mother in taking care of the household expenses and thus wanted to work. She joined Azad with her consent and began her training. But her brothers were against it and caused a lot of problems. She also wanted to prove to them that there was nothing wrong in this profession. She gained confidence on seeing other women drivers. It also gave her the courage to stand up to naysayers and show them that there are other people doing this too. Now, she has gained confidence and says she is not afraid of standing up to anyone. She has passed the Sakha test and is ready to go on to a job.

- 14.** **Name:** Jyoti G
 DOB: 03/02/88
 Education: Class 5 pass
 Locality: Gautampuri
 Date of joining: 11.5.14
 Date of permanent license: 1.10.14
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 2



Jyoti was brought up in a family of three sisters and one brother. She had to leave school after Class V and started doing household chores. Her parents got her married at the age of 15 and she has two children now. Recently, her brother passed away and her parents have not been able to get the other two sisters married. She has taken on the responsibility of managing the household and is determined to work for that. She joined Azad because it gave her the opportunity to get a decent job and also to do something different, which she had always wanted. She says that her training here has helped her see the world differently and become more confident as an individual. She is full of hope for a better future and wants to join work as a professional chauffeur.

- 15.** **Name:** Jyoti E
 DOB: 06/12/1995
 Education: Class 12 pass
 Locality: Indira Camp
 Date of joining: 11.5.14
 Date of permanent license: 22.10.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Jyoti lives with her mother and three other members. Her mother is the only earning member of the house and the expenses are a lot for her to bear. When Jyoti heard about Azad through the mobilisation team, she decided to take training with full support from the family. Now that she has been in training for six months, she feels that sustaining the house is getting more and more difficult for her mother. It is because of this mostly that she is eager to start working. She is a dedicated student and makes an effort to never miss training. She wants to be able to educate her younger sister so that she can go become a teacher. She wants to be able to say this to her mother, "Mummy ab tum pareshaan mat hona, gharkakharcha ab main chalaungi" (mother, don't worry, I will handle the household expenses). She is learning fast and is ready for the Sakha test.

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- 16.** **Name:** Annu
 DOB: 12/12/1992
 Education: Class 5 pass
 Locality: Govindpuri
 Date of joining: 11.5.14
 Date of permanent license: 30.10.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Annu lives in a family of eight people, with her father being the only earning member. She had just completed Class 5, when she was forced to go back to her village due to financial constraints and so she could not study further. During this time, her mother fell ill and Annu had to return to Delhi to take care of her and also her siblings. She joined work in a factory in the hope that this would enable her siblings to continue studying. When she got to know about Azad, she decided to join because she realised that one could study along with work. The training and the work itself, she says, are very informative and she gets to learn new things, which she had never thought of. She wishes to be a successful driver and complete her studies alongside.

- 17.** **Name:** Nikki
 DOB: 1/1/91
 Education: Class 10 pass
 Locality: Badarpur
 Date of joining: 11.5.14
 Date of permanent license: 7.8.14
 Marital status:
 No. of children:



Nikki lives with her parents and three siblings in Gautampuri. Her father is an electrician and mother runs a grocery shop. Nikki decided to leave an attendant's job at a petrol pump and join the Azad training course to try her hand at driving. Though initially she was not very regular with her training, she soon began to attend her classes with interest and attained a permanent license.

BATCH 33

- 18.** **Name:** Meenaxi
 DOB: 07/05/1987
 Education: Class 12
 Locality: Gautampuri
 Date of joining: 9.6.14
 Date of permanent license: 1.10.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Meenakshi had to drop out of the education system once she finished her Class 10 because of financial constraints. She started working for a meager income of Rs 1,500 a month in a factory. Soon after, she started studying again and is now finishing Class 12. She found out about Azad through the Sakha drivers in her area and felt the desire to learn driving. Her parents supported her decision but her brother was against it. Now that she has learnt how to drive, she says, "abkarkedikhayahaibhaiko! Woh toh 2-wheeler chalahain, main 4-wheeler" (Now I have done it and shown my brother. He drives a 2-wheeler and I, a 4-wheeler). She wants to go on a job so that she can contribute to the family income.

- 19.** **Name:** Pushpa
 DOB: 23/04/1981
 Education: Class 10 pass
 Locality: GK-1
 Date of joining: 9.6.14
 Date of permanent license: 1.10.14
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 3



Pushpa was introduced to Azad by a friend. She had always wanted to drive a car and had found an opportunity to do so in Azad. Her family supported her. She found that the training imparted a sense of self-confidence in her. She says that all this is necessary for her as driving is a profession where one has to face a lot of challenges, and she should thus be equipped to handle them. Since she lives in a joint family, it is difficult to sustain the household on one person's income. She wants to learn fast so that she can start working and contribute to the overall income of the family.

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- 20.** **Name:** Varsha
 DOB:
 Education:
 Locality:
 Date of joining: 9.6.14
 Date of permanent license: 1.10.14
 Marital Status:
 No. of children:



Varsha comes from Badarpur and lives with her parents and four siblings. Her father is a rickshaw puller and mother works as a help in a school. When Varsha heard of Azad, she immediately wanted to join training. Although her home was far from the training centre, she somehow managed to attend her classes. Though initially she was scared of driving she was able to overcome her fear. She has a permanent license.

BATCH 34

21. **Name:** Kalavati
 DOB: 04/02/1996
 Education: Class 12 pass
 Locality: Indira Camp
 Date of joining: 16.7.14
 Date of permanent license: 31.12.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Kalavati lives in a household of five. Her father is a driver by profession. Seeing him drive cars to earn a living, she also developed the desire follow suit. After clearing Class 12, she found out about Azad and applied for training. Though her parents were okay with her decision, her other relatives laughed at her and suggested that she had chosen this because she could not do anything else. When she came for training, she learnt a lot in the various classes and understood what it meant to do something on your own. She says that she wants to become a good driver to earn for her family, stand on her own feet and show her relatives that even women can be good drivers.

22. **Name:** Aradhana Srivastava
 DOB: 20/11/1987
 Education: Class 9 pass
 Locality: Sangam Vihar
 Date of joining: 16.7.14
 Date of permanent license: 20.12.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0

Aradhana lives with her mother in Sangam Vihar. She was always interested in driving and says that she feels closer to her dream after coming to Azad. She now has a chance to move ahead in life and not get restricted by the circumstances which her sisters had to face. She likes her training and feels that it has given her the confidence to face any problems that will come in life. She wants to make the most of this opportunity and become a professional driver soon.

- 23.** **Name:** Pooja
 DOB: 18/12/1991
 Education: B.A.
 Locality: Kalyanpuri
 Date of joining: 16.7.14
 Date of permanent license: 31.12.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Pooja wanted to do a respectable job. When she expressed her wish to learn driving, faced a lot of resistance from her brother who did not want her to take the training. She persisted and even fought with him on most days to attend her classes. Thankfully, her parents supported her. She was also able to continue with her studies and is now doing her bachelors in arts. She says that driving makes her feel very good and gives her the hope of a better life. She wants to soon become a driver and make an identity for herself.

- 24.** **Name:** Babli
 DOB: 01/04/1992
 Education: B.A. 3rd year
 Locality: Kalyanpuri
 Date of joining: 16.7.14
 Date of permanent license: 31.12.14
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Babli is driven by the desire to make a name for herself and have her own distinct identity. It was because of this that she decided to join Azad. Her parents give her their full support and want her to go ahead and work as a driver. The family is not financially sound. She does stitching work in her free time to support her training. She likes her training and wants to complete it soon to join work and be able to help her family and also make them feel proud of her.

- 25.** **Name:** Beena
 DOB: 01/01/1994
 Education: B.A. 1st year
 Locality: Madanpur Khadar
 Date of joining: 16.7.14
 Date of permanent license: 24.1.15
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Beena got to know about Azad Foundation through her elder sister who is associated with another organisation. She was unsure about it in the beginning but when she came to the office and saw the training, she made up her mind to join. She wants to work in order to help her mother and sister in running the household. She likes her training and feels that it gives her the confidence to be in any situation. Her 'self-drive' went very smoothly because she was quite confident. She feels that she has become more independent after her training and would like to make a career in driving.

- 26.** **Name:** Rajni Chauhan
 DOB: 20/12/1992
 Education: B.A. pass
 Locality: Badarpur
 Date of joining: 16.7.14
 Date of permanent license: 6.1.15
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Rajni moved to Delhi from her village in UP looking for better educational options. She always wanted to do something different. When she took admission in college, she thought she would become a lawyer but the fee was too high. One day, when the Azad mobilisation team visited her house, she realised that driving was a good option and saw it as a platform to do something different. Initially, she was shy, but opened up after the communication training. The self-defense training also gave her confidence to face the world. She says, "I love to go around the city and to new places. This profession is perfect for me!"



Padmini is from Chattisgarh and completed the first few years of her education there. She could not follow her childhood dream of becoming a doctor due to family compulsions. She is pursuing driving because it gives her the chance to do something new. She wants to help her family with the finances and also enable her younger siblings to fulfill their dreams. Azad has given her a way to move forward and she enjoys the change that has come in her life. She says she wants to focus on her driving for now so that she can become an efficient chauffeur.



Nisha lives in a family of 10 members. Her father is unemployed and the household expenses are borne by her mother and two younger sisters who work after school. She handles her own expenses through some part time work but cannot help everyone out. She wants to learn driving so that she can do a job and help in contributing to the household income and also educate her siblings. She also hopes that one day, she will have a house of her own and be able to fulfill all her dreams. She has been working hard and has been attending her graining classes regularly. She will soon take the Sakha test.

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Neetu lives in Badarpur with her parents and four siblings. Her father is a fruit vendor and earns just about enough money to feed the family. She got to know about Azad through their mobilisation and outreach team and expressed interest to join. She says that she was always curious to know what it would be like to sit behind the wheel. When she expressed her wish in front of her parents, they asked her to do what she thought best. Her mother has been a constant support throughout her training.

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- A portrait of Dr. Anuradha Kulkarni, a woman with dark hair, wearing a yellow top and a necklace, with a bindi on her forehead.

Nirupama moved to Delhi about four years ago. She is taking training at Azad for which she has the full support of her husband and mother-in-law. She has been taking training for about eight months now. Learning driving is a dream come true for her. She aspires to be a bus driver and believes that if there is a will in the heart, one can do anything one wants.

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Jaya has been married for 11 years and has two children. Before her marriage, she would stitch clothes for a living but discontinued thereafter. She got to know about Azad Foundation through Azad's community mobilisers. She was staying away from her husband during her training with Azad. On his return, her husband was pleasantly surprised to see her driving. She was surprised when he said that he wanted her to drive a bus. Jaya has changed a lot now. She has better knowledge of roads and direction and more courage to go out. Her husband shares her in domestic chores. She wants to fulfill her own and her husband's dream of becoming a bus driver and is working hard for it.

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Sangeeta had to drop out of school in Class 11, after the loss of her father. She tried to do an English course and subsequently one in computers, but she had to leave that too owing to ill health. Now she lives alone with her mother. It took a lot of efforts from her side to convince her mother to take training in Azad. Although the initial training days were difficult, she coped well and enjoys driving now. Her dream is to get a job as soon as possible and continue her education. She hopes to give her mother everything she wants and move forward in life with the confidence she has gained.

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Firoza is raising her three children single handedly. After having separated from her husband, she now stays with her mother and works as a part time help in homes to support her training. She is a confident woman and is aware of her rights. Despite the challenges that come with raising three children alone, she has successfully attained a permanent license and is working on refining her skills.

BATCH 36

35. **Name:** Sumitra
 DOB:
 Education:
 Locality:
 Date of joining: 18.9.14
 Date of permanent license: 16.2.15
 Marital status:
 No. of children:



Sumitra became acquainted with Azad through its outreach surveys. She got interested and expressed the desire to join when Azad followed up with her. She finally joined with the support of her mother. But her husband continued to resist. She says that she always wanted to do something useful but felt that fate was not on her side. While training, she felt that she could change this and decided that she would not let this opportunity slip out of her hand. This perseverance has led to her gaining her husband's support as well. She wants to drive a cab, educate her daughter and manage her family on her terms.

36. **Name:** Onika
 DOB: 02.02.1986
 Education: Class 10 pass
 Locality: Jagatpuri
 Date of joining: 18.9.14
 Date of permanent license: 22.1.15
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Onika wanted to learn driving even as a young girl, but always thought she would do it when she had the money. When she got to know about Azad Foundation through the mobilisation team, she registered herself for training. She had to face a lot of resistance from her father but she stood up for what she wanted. Today, although the family does not say anything to her, no one supports her financially. She pays for the training with the money she had saved in her previous job. She is a good learner. She wants to get a job and then drive a taxi. She wishes to build a house of her own, where, she says, "All girls from Azad can come and stay!"



Kamla lives in East Delhi with her husband and two children. She tried to make both ends meet and come regularly for the training in Azad amidst a lot of financial crisis when her husband lost his job with an export company. She remained an observant learner and tried to be attentive towards her own achievements and shortcomings. She has received her permanent license and is looking forward to completing her training soon to begin working.

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Azad Foundation

NORTH DELHI

BATCH 10

41.	Name:	Poonam
	DOB:	16/08/1992
	Education:	Class 10 pass
	Locality:	Malkaganj
	Date of joining:	12.10.13
	Date of permanent license:	09.04.2014
	Marital status:	Unmarried
	No. of children:	0

Poonam had a lot of aspirations but she could not do much because of her mother who was ill and bed ridden. She had to leave her studies to take care of her sick mother. However, all these years she nurtured the dream to step out of the house and be economically independent. When she heard about Azad through her friends, she felt her dreams had got wings. Somehow, she managed to convince her family members to let her join Azad. She started training and aspired to be a successful driver. Unfortunately, she had to leave her training midway due to family pressure. She feels family support is of utmost importance to make an Azad trainee's dream come true.

BATCH 11

42.	Name:	Arti
	DOB:	25/03/1994
	Education:	Class 12 pass
	Locality:	Jahangirpuri
	Date of joining:	30.12.13
	Date of permanent license:	30.04.2014
	Marital status:	Unmarried
	No. of children:	0

She is a first driver in her family, a fact everyone in her family is proud of. Aarti used to teach in a school with a meager salary of Rs 1,000 only. With very few professional opportunities to grow, she was looking for alternatives when she came across a pamphlet with a message to learn professional driving. She joined Azad and began a new journey. According to her, Azad has brought a very positive change in her life and outlook. She feels proud of her achievements. She feels that the environment in Azad provides space to the trainees to speak their mind. This goes a long way in building their confidence.

- 43.**
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|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Name: | Poonam |
| DOB: | 15/03/1986 |
| Education: | Class 12 pass |
| Locality: | Jahangirpuri |
| Date of joining: | 28/12/2013 |
| Date of permanent license: | 11/06/2014 |
| Marital status: | Separated |
| No. of children: | 2 |

A victim of domestic violence, Poonam took a brave step to end it by moving out of her marriage. With two children to look after, she was desperate to make herself economically independent. According to her, "I wanted to do something but with no options available, I was feeling helpless and frustrated." It was during this phase that she came across a pamphlet from Azad and it provided an answer to all her problems. She immediately registered herself for the training. Now, while undergoing training she sees a drastic change in herself. The reins of her life in her own hands, she says. She has left her children with her parents in the village so that she can devote all her time to training and start earning as soon as possible. She feels that if she gets more time behind the wheel during training instead of the usual 30 minutes, she can learn faster.

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- 44.**
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|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Name: | Sangeeta Bharti |
| DOB: | 23/03/1992 |
| Education: | BA pass |
| Locality: | Azadpur |
| Date of joining: | |
| Date of permanent license: | 30.04.2014 |
| Marital status: | Married |
| No. of children: | 0 |

After joining Azad, Sangeeta didn't realise when her mother's dream became her own dream. Her mother was very keen to be a driver herself but due to thought she had crossed the age, so she encouraged Sangeeta to join Azad. Initially, Sangeeta was very opposed to the idea of becoming a woman driver. She had always thought that she would get married and settle down. Little did she know that Azad would change her outlook towards life for good. According to her, "I was not happy for the first one month. Infact, I was very annoyed with my mother for sending me to Azad but slowly, I started liking the feeling of being behind the wheel. My performance in driving was also good. Every one appreciated me. This motivated me and I started enjoying coming to Azad. Now, more than my mother I am desperate to become a commercial driver." She however feels that, the training they received in IDTR was not very useful. What they learned there in one month can be learnt in Azad training in one week.

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| 45. | Name: | Sanam |
| | DOB: | 19/08/1991 |
| | Education: | Class 12 pass |
| | Locality: | Jahangirpuri |
| | Date of joining: | 01.09.14 |
| | Date of permanent license: | 11.03.2014 |
| | Marital status: | Unmarried |
| | No. of children: | 0 |

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|------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 46. | Name: | Neelam Bharti |
| | DOB: | 04/04/1994 |
| | Education: | Class 7 pass |
| | Locality: | Azadpur |
| | Date of joining: | 01.01.2014 |
| | Date of permanent license: | 11.03.2014 |
| | Marital status: | Unmarried |
| | No. of children: | 0 |

BATCH 12

47.	Name:	Divya
	DOB:	01/09/1994
	Education:	Class 10 pass
	Locality:	Jahangirpuri
	Date of joining:	25.04.14
	Date of permanent license:	10.09.2014
	Marital status:	Unmarried
	No. of children:	0

Divya had to face opposition from her mother when she decided to join Azad as she would always worry about what people would say. But she took training with the support of her father and sister. Her family's economic condition is not very good. So she works part time to support her training in Azad. She feels a lot has changed in her life and is eager to go on job now.

48.	Name:	Anita Maggu
	DOB:	11/12/1991
	Education:	Class 8 pass
	Locality:	Burari
	Date of joining:	25.04.2014
	Date of permanent license:	28.08.2014
	Marital status:	Married
	No. of children:	1

Anita works in a factory while also training in Azad. Her husband is a cycle rickshaw puller and thus the household income is very low. They have a four year old son and live in a rented accommodation. She joined Azad in order to earn a decent living and do a respectable job so that she can take care of her child. She is regular with training and has passed her permanent license test.

- Kiran is pursuing her education amid severe financial constraints. Her father is a cycle rickshaw puller and finds it difficult to pay for her education. She started working in a factory, but felt it is a hostile place for females. She has now left that job and is taking training in Azad. She feels overwhelmed with the kind of respect she gets here and soon hopes to work as a driver.

- Azad Foundation*

BATCH 13

51.	Name:	Chitra
	DOB:	28/01/1981
	Education:	Class 7 pass
	Locality:	Burari
	Date of joining:	25.05.14
	Date of permanent license:	12.11.2014
	Marital status:	Unmarried
	No. of children:	0

Chitra is a strong girl who lives with her mother. Her father passed away earlier last year and since then she is determined to take up the responsibility of her ageing mother's welfare. She stitches clothes to earn a living and pay for her conveyance. She takes interest in her learning and in various organisational activities and campaigns. She hopes to become a driver soon and support herself.

BATCH 14

52.	Name:	Naveena
	DOB:	30/08/1995
	Education:	Class 12 pass
	Locality:	Burari
	Date of joining:	04.07.2014
	Date of permanent license:	02.12.14
	Marital status:	Unmarried
	No. of children:	0

Naveena decided to take training in Azad as she wanted to do something to support her family. During training, she displayed potential to be a good driver as she was a keen learner. Due to the increased financial burden at home, she was forced to quit midway. She started working in data entry where she was earning enough to help her family. She also did her BA side by side. Now, she is hoping to come back after finishing her exams.

- Neelam lives with her husband and five children. She joined Azad with the support of her husband and is now doing well in her training. She seeks to impart some of the values she has learnt here to her daughters. She also hopes to inculcate in them a strong will and confidence by working as a driver.

- Married at the age of 18, Sushma is a mother of two children. Her husband passed away and since then she has borne the burden of earning for the household. Prior to joining Azad, Sushma used to work as a security guard. She got to know of Azad through one of the drivers she met at her workplace. The idea excited her and she decided to quit her job and join the training course. She is enthusiastic as a trainee and has acquired her permanent license. She hopes to work as a driver soon.

- Sahil joined Azad after her younger sister was compelled into quitting training by her family. She wanted to prove a point and take training in driving along with continuing her BA. Her family does not like this and at times they even do not let her enter the house. Despite all these challenges, Sahil is committed to her training and has passed her permanent license test. She is confident and stands up to the injustice around her, be it on the street or in her house. She hopes to complete her training soon and get a job.

56.

Name:	Geeta
DOB:	30/03/1987
Education:	Class 8 pass
Locality:	Kadipur
Date of joining:	06.08.2014
Date of permanent license:	12.02.2015
Marital status:	Married
No. of children:	4

Geeta was married at the age of 11. She has four children and stays in her parents' home. Her husband is abusive and does not give any money for household expenses. She wants to work as a driver to be able to contribute to the house and also educate her children. Till now, she has been receiving support from her parents but she also wants to ease their burden and move ahead in life to do something different.

- Arti had to work in a steel factory for a meagre salary due to financial constraints. She did not like the atmosphere there as women were not treated with respect. When she got to know about Azad, she made up her mind to train here and work as a driver. She says that she is enjoying living her life now and a lot has changed for her during training. She is active even outside the organisation and has driven a car for election campaigns too. She is soon going to appear for her Sakha test and hopes to start working soon.

Anjali is a BA student and is doing her driving training alongside. As a child, she wanted to become a lawyer but now she feels she should get a good government job like her brother did. She believes that one should do something different in life. She wants to do driving because it is a profession in which only men are given value. She also thinks it is a necessary skill which everyone should know. She is learning well and is now waiting for her Sakha test.

- 59.**
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|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Name: | Preeti Lata |
| DOB: | 10/11/1994 |
| Education: | Class 12 pass |
| Locality: | Burari |
| Date of joining: | 26.09.14 |
| Date of permanent license: | 18.03.2015 |
| Marital status: | Unmarried |
| No. of children: | 0 |

Preeti lived in the village for the better part of her childhood. She joined Azad with the support of her mother after they moved to Delhi. Though her parents are reluctant in sending her out, she remains adamant and somehow manages to move out of her house frequently. She sees driving as a way of being able to support herself and study further. She wants to make her own choices, take her own decisions and be responsible. She says that she wants to show the world that even women can drive and be professional chauffeurs.

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- 60.**
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|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Name: | Preeti Verma |
| DOB: | 04/12/1995 |
| Education: | Class 10 pass |
| Locality: | Mehrol |
| Date of joining: | 29.09.14 |
| Date of permanent license: | 20.03.2015 |
| Marital status: | Unmarried |
| No. of children: | 0 |

Preeti lives in a household of 10 members. Seven of her sisters are now married. After her father lost his job, they had to face a lot of financial trouble but somehow she managed to study up to Class 10. She wants to earn so that she is not a burden on anyone else. She says, "Only those who have strong dreams are able to fulfill their goals". This is a good opportunity for her to move ahead in life. Till now, her dreams remained as such because of problems at home, but now she can see hope for the future.

BATCH 18

- 61.**
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|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Name: | Barkha Rani |
| DOB: | 12/09/1994 |
| Education: | Class 10 pass |
| Locality: | Burari |
| Date of joining: | 10.11.14 |
| Date of permanent license: | 21.03.2015 |
| Marital status: | Unmarried |
| No. of children: | 0 |

Barkha's father is an auto rickshaw driver. She has had to face a lot of discrimination at home. With much convincing, she was able to come to Azad for training. She learnt about various things which made her more confident as an individual. She now has the support of her mother to do this training and work as a professional chauffeur. She has acquired her permanent driving license.

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- 62.**
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|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Name: | Manisha |
| DOB: | 29/06/1991 |
| Education: | Undergraduate |
| Locality: | Burari |
| Date of joining: | 10.11.2014 |
| Date of permanent license: | 13.03.2015 |
| Marital status: | Unmarried |
| No. of children: | 0 |

Manisha was very young when her father passed away and the responsibility of the household came on her mother. Her mother worked as a housemaid in various houses to support her and her brother's education. Today, Manisha is doing her BA but her brother does not want her to study further. He does not work and has taken to drinking while also being violent towards the mother and daughter. She wants to complete her training fast so that she can support herself and her mother and earn a decent living. She has got a permanent license and is waiting to complete her training.

- 63.**
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|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Name: | Babita |
| DOB: | 15/01/1995 |
| Education: | Class 12 pass |
| Locality: | Burari |
| Date of joining: | 17.10.14 |
| Date of permanent license: | 13.03.2015 |
| Marital status: | Unmarried |
| No. of children: | 0 |

Babita lives in a family of seven members with only one breadwinner. Her parents had to sell their house in order to get her sister married and are thus facing very tough times financially. She is continuing her studies and is now doing her BA along with training in Azad. She was always interested in driving and wants to learn and prove to her brother that she can do it. She wants to earn and help her father with finances so that her other siblings can study. She has the support of her mother to do this and says that she gives her the strength to face any sort of difficulty. She takes interest in her training and is learning fast. She will soon appear for the Sakha test.

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- 64.**
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|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Name: | Anamika |
| DOB: | 06/09/1993 |
| Education: | Undergraduate |
| Locality: | Swaroop Nagar |
| Date of joining: | 10.11.14 |
| Date of permanent license: | 18.03.2015 |
| Marital status: | Unmarried |
| No. of children: | 0 |

Anamika got to know of Azad through its mobilisation team which works in her area. She decided to join the training despite financial constraints. She works as a part time help in a medical shop to support her studies. She also pays for her transport to and from the training centre with this money. She does not like asking her father for monetary help. She is a dedicated learner and has got her permanent license. She wants to start working soon in order to support her studies and also help her siblings to study further.

BATCH 19

65.	Name:	Anu Sharma
	DOB:	06/06/1988
	Education:	Class 8 pass
	Locality:	Burari
	Date of joining:	06.12.14
	Date of permanent license:	31.03.2015
	Marital status:	Separated
	No. of children:	0

Anu had a rough childhood. Her eldest brother would beat her up and would also go to the extent of inducing violence on their parents. She was married early but even that relationship was full of violence. She was brave enough and left her husband due to this. Her family and relatives do not support her or keep any kind of relation with her. She is a confident and strong person and has bought a small house for herself. She meets her expenses through stitching but wants to do something more. She is taking training so that she can become a driver and also continue her studies.

HARYANA

GURGAON



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Aarti is proud of her decision to join Azad. According to her, "In Azad I learned much more than I expected. The training is not restricted to driving. It covers several important aspects related to our life which are going to help me in the long run. After coming here I learned about the problems women face in their lives which I also discuss with my other friends in Azad and at home. This helps me understand my surroundings in a better manner. Although I was independent before, after coming to Azad I feel more confident." She is thankful to her neighbour who is associated with Azad for telling her about this opportunity and also appreciates her husband for his support. She is very keen to come to commercial driving as soon as possible.

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Azad Foundation

- 7.** **Name:** Rajkumari
 DOB: 5/12/1986
 Education: Class 8 pass
 Locality: Tilla Colony
 Date of joining: 14.3.2014
 Date of permanent license: 27.10.2014
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 2



Rajkumari came into Azad with a lot of hope. When she joined, she had the support of her husband and in-laws. But as her course progressed, they started raising objections as she was pregnant. She was advised by Azad to consult a doctor on this. She is keen and dedicated and wants to complete the course so that she can start working soon.

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- 8.** **Name:** Pooja Pal
 DOB: 25/11/1992
 Education: Class 9 pass
 Locality: Prem Nagar
 Date of joining: 19.5.2014
 Date of permanent license: 19.11.2014
 Marital status:
 No. of children:



Pooja lives in a household of five and has two sisters, who also work. She has full support of her family to do this course. She is a little slow in learning because she does not give it as much attention. She is frequently late and also takes a lot of holidays which has led to her lacking behind the rest. She is showing signs of improvement and seems more focussed as the training is progressing.

- 9.** **Name:** Pushpa
 DOB: 30/7/1985
 Education: Class 6 pass
 Locality: Shikohpur
 Date of joining: 14.3.2014
 Date of permanent license: 25.11.2014
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 3



Pushpa's financial condition is not good as her husband does not work. Her parents support the family but they can also only do so much. She realized that in order to do something about this, she will have to get out of the house. It is then that she joined Azad. Seeing her economic condition, the organization helped her out with her conveyance to and from training. She is doing well and hopes to complete her training fast and start working.

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- 10.** **Name:** Savita
 DOB: 23/12/1989
 Education: Class 7 pass
 Locality: Shikohpur
 Date of joining: 14.3.2014
 Date of permanent license: 3.12.2014
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 2



Savita is very punctual with her training. She has been regular also because her family supports her in what she wants to pursue. She is a dedicated trainee and is always willing to learn new things. She takes initiative and has also supported other trainees in getting learners and permanent licenses.

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|------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 11. | Name: | Babli |
| | DOB: | 1/6/1979 |
| | Education: | 8th pass |
| | Locality: | Samalakha |
| | Date of joining: | 22.8.2014 |
| | Date of permanent license: | 10.12.2014 |
| | Marital status: | |
| | No. of children: | |



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|------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 12. | Name: | Babita |
| | DOB: | 16/6/1985 |
| | Education: | Class 10 pass |
| | Locality: | Kapasheda |
| | Date of joining: | 14.8.2014 |
| | Date of permanent license: | 15.1.2015 |
| | Marital status: | |
| | No. of children: | |



- 13.** **Name:** Anuradha
 DOB: 15/8/1991
 Education: Class 8 pass
 Locality: Tilla Colony
 Date of Joining: 15.3.2014
 Date of permanent license: 24.12.2014
 Marital status:
 No. of children:



JAIPUR

BATCH 5

- 14.** **Name:** Anita Kanwar
 DOB: 21/05/1982
 Education: Class 7 pass
 Locality: Sindhi Colony
 Date of joining: 31.05.14
 Date of permanent license: 25.8.2014
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 1



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- 15.** **Name:** Madhu Devi
 DOB: 06/05/1988
 Education: Class 8 pass
 Locality: Jawahar Nagar
 Date of joining: 31.05.14
 Date of permanent license: 01.9.2014
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 2



Madhu and her husband washed and ironed clothes for a living. They have two children. Madhu always wanted to do something different. She came to know about Azad Foundation through its team which had come to their basti. Impressed with the whole concept, she decided to join. She discussed the idea with her husband and parents-in-law, who gave her whole hearted support. Having completed her training at Azad, Madhu received a permanent license and also got a private placement. She doesn't feel she is neglecting her family in any way because she manages to come back home at a decent time.

- 16.** **Name:** Seema
 DOB: 09/02/1980
 Education: Class 8 pass
 Locality: Gopalpura
 Date of joining: 31.05.14
 Date of permanent license: 12.9.2014
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 2



- 17.** **Name:** Simran Kaur
 DOB: 07/09/1994
 Education: Class 7 pass
 Locality: Sardarbasti, Jhalana
 Date of joining: 31.05.14
 Date of permanent license: 27.8.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



The confidence with which Simran drives a car today is very different from the time she joined Azad. In her own words, "At that time, I could not even ride a bicycle." The incentive of a well-paying job was the biggest driving force behind Simran's decision to join Azad's training programme. Her other driving force of course was to support the family income. She had to leave her education midway due to financial constraints. Her father works as a labourer despite the fact that he has a medical problem in the shoulders. She wants to earn enough to be able to get him treatment in a good hospital. The good thing is that her parents did not pay heed to all those, especially neighbours, who pointed a finger at Simran's choice of profession. Simran is a changed girl today. Four months into her training and she already feels confident to face the world.

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Azad Foundation

- 20.** **Name:** Uma Chauhan
 DOB: 01/07/1988
 Education: Class 10 pass
 Locality: Jhalana Doongri
 Date of joining: 31.05.14
 Date of permanent license: 27.8.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Uma's whole personality has undergone a metamorphosis ever since she joined Azad to learn driving. Such is her confidence that she can take on anybody. In her own words, "There was a time I could not oppose anything unjust. But now, no one dare say anything wrong in front of me. I do not tolerate injustice." Uma's grandmother was the only person in her family who opposed the idea of her joining a training programme for driving. Apart from driving, the other learning programs like self defense, awareness of rights and primary healthcare have also empowered Uma and made her bolder.

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- 21.** **Name:** Vishakha
 DOB: 09/11/1977
 Education: Class 8 pass
 Locality: Jhalana Doongri
 Date of joining:
 Date of permanent license:
 Marital status: Separated
 No. of children: 0

22.	Name:	Bindiya Kaleshia
	DOB:	15/09/1992
	Education:	Class 12 pass
	Locality:	Malviya Nagar
	Date of joining:	01.07.14
	Date of permanent license:	14.11.2014
	Marital status:	Unmarried
	No. of children:	0



Bindiya studied up to Class 12 much against the wishes of her father. Now she is in her first year of graduation. She always remembers him chiding her for studying, which he said would not help her in the kitchen once she gets married. Initially, she studied in a school run by an NGO and later, funded her own studies with the money she got by doing stitching work. Bindiya was learning stitching work in a social organization when she came across the Azad Foundation team. Once again, she had to face her father's resistance before getting enrolled for the training. But her mother stood behind her. Besides driving, Bindiya liked the training she got in the field of self defense, women's rights, primary healthcare and communication skills. Having completed training, Bindiya has now got her permanent driving license.

23.	Name:	Kiran
	DOB:	13/09/1994
	Education:	Class 5 pass
	Locality:	Malviya Nagar
	Date of joining:	01.07.14
	Date of permanent license:	14.11.2014
	Marital status:	Unmarried
	No. of children:	0



Twenty year old Kiran lives in Balmiki Basti area of Malviya Nagar with her parents and siblings. She was not interested in studies so she stopped going to school after Class 7. After dropping out, she joined a training center to learn stitching. While she was here, a team from Azad Foundation visited the center and told them about how they train women to become drivers and earn a living. Convinced that she wanted to do such a job, Kiran enrolled herself for the programme. She got her family's support too. During her training at Azad, Kiran was also told about her legal rights. She was also made aware of the importance of primary healthcare and given gender training. Although Kiran was excited, she was quite scared at the prospect of driving in crowded places. She was also skeptical about her ability to converse with her clients but her training in communication skills came in handy.

- 24.** **Name:** Pinky Devi
 DOB: 15/05/1987
 Education: Class 8 pass
 Locality: Jawahar Nagar
 Date of joining: 01.07.14
 Date of permanent license: 27.11.2014
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 3



Pinki has studied up to Class 8 and is a mother of two, a son and a daughter. She went ahead with her training despite objections from her father-in-law. Her mother-in-law would often complain whenever she came back home late from her training. But Pinki did not relent. Her husband took upon himself the mantle of defending her. Pinki was a fast learner and picked up the nuances of driving pretty fast. Today, she has a permanent driving license. Her friends say they have noticed a lot of positive changes in her post her training in communications skills, gender rights, self-defense and primary healthcare at Azad Foundation.

- 25.** **Name:** Poonam Ghenghat
 DOB: 03/05/1988
 Education: Class 8 pass
 Locality: Malviya Nagar
 Date of joining: 01.07.14
 Date of permanent license: 11.11.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Poonam is the eldest of two sisters and two brothers. Her parents work as cleaners at a private hospital in Jaipur. The family is hard pressed financially and being the eldest of the four siblings, Poonam felt it was her responsibility to contribute to the family's income. She has studied up to Class 9 in a school run by an NGO. She dropped out of school and started stitching at home so that her siblings could go ahead with their studies. She attended Azad Foundation's community mobilization program once and decided that she too, would learn driving and become a driver as she found it to be a lucrative job. Her parents and sisters supported her decision and she enrolled herself for the training. Having acquired a permanent driving license, Poonam is now waiting to complete her training.

- 26.** **Name:** Priya Sangat
 DOB: 11/11/1994
 Education: Class 10 pass
 Locality: Malviya Nagar
 Date of joining: 01.07.14
 Date of permanent license: 31.10.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Priya has had to live with discrimination ever since she was born. When she grew up she was told that her birth was jinxed, because her eldest brother died the day she was born. No one in her family, except her mother has loved and supported her. She was virtually ostracized by her grandparents, siblings and father. In all this, her mother ensured that Priya studied up to Class 12. Having come this far, Priya wanted to help her mother in contributing to the family income. Priya came to know about Azad's training programme for female drivers in one of their community mobilization programmes. Her mother encouraged her and now, Priya is taking training to become a driver. Having never sat in a car before, first time she put her hand on the steering wheel, she really felt empowered.

- 27.** **Name:** Puja Beniwal
 DOB: 05/06/1995
 Education: Class 5 pass
 Locality: Malviya Nagar
 Date of joining: 01.07.14
 Date of permanent license: 11.11.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Pooja Beniwal lives in a family of five including her parents. Her parents work as cleaners in a private school. She dropped out of school after Class 5 due to family compulsions and bad health. She came to know about Azad Foundation when its representatives came to their area for a survey. She was sitting idle at home those days and the idea of driving sounded quite exciting to her. She discussed it with her parents who gave her permission to go ahead. So, Pooja went to Azad and enrolled herself for registration. Says Pooja, "The whole training really empowers us. I enjoyed my training thoroughly. Being able to drive a car was the best part. I was also made aware of primary healthcare and women's rights." Pooja confesses that she was a shy girl earlier and her life was confined to the four walls of her house. But the training at Azad has instilled a lot of self-confidence and now she is ready to face the world. Her joy knew no bounds when she got her permanent license. This license is like my identity now, she says.

- 28.** **Name:** Pooja Kansotia
 DOB: 10/10/1995
 Education: Class 12 pass
 Locality: Jawahar Nagar
 Date of joining: 01.07.14
 Date of permanent license: 11.11.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Since childhood, twenty year old Pooja has had to face hardships because of the family's financial condition. Since her mother is a housewife and her father a labourer, the income is really meager. She somehow managed to do her graduation, after which the only thought in her mind was to find ways and means to support her family. Then, one day, she got to know about Azad Foundation's driving programme for women. She was really impressed with the idea of equipping herself for a job. She also thought that it was an out of the box job. Her parents did not agree but she enrolled herself for training with her elder sister's support. After some days, she managed to convince her mother, who later also accompanied her to one of Azad's meetings. She has now successfully attained her permanent license.

BATCH 7

- 29.** **Name:** Meenu Lakhan
 DOB: 10/10/1993
 Education: BA Pass
 Locality: Malviya Nagar
 Date of joining: 01.08. 14
 Date of permanent license: 28.11.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Meenu had no pressing need to take up driving as a profession. Unlike many others, her family circumstances are pretty stable. Her father works in a government office and mother is a housewife. For Meenu, it is not about supporting the family but about her own empowerment. She is a graduate and could have got another job. But the idea of driving a car fascinated her. Since her mother encouraged her, the rest of the family also rallied behind her. From an introvert, Meenu has transformed into an extrovert girl. She is quite bold and fearless now.

- 30.** **Name:** Pooja
 DOB: 15/1/1995
 Education: Class 10 pass
 Locality: Jhalana Doongri
 Date of joining: 01.08.14
 Date of permanent license: 21.10.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Since Pooja is the eldest of four siblings, she thought it was her responsibility to contribute to the family income. More so since her father is a drunkard and spends most of his money in buying alcohol. This was also one of the main reasons why Pooja had to give up her education midway. Having taken training in driving at Azad Foundation, Pooja already has a permanent license and is all set to take up a job.

BATCH 8

- 31.** **Name:** Jyoti Choudhary
 DOB: 01/03/1980
 Education: Class 8 pass
 Locality: Jhalana Gram
 Date of joining: 02.09.14
 Date of permanent license: 28.11.2014
 Marital status: Married
 No. of children: 3



- 32.** **Name:** Rashmi Dangoria
 DOB: 02/05/1995
 Education: Class 8 pass
 Locality: Jhalana Doongri
 Date of joining: 02.09.14
 Date of permanent license: 19.12.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0
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- 33.** **Name:** Priyanka Ghilotia
 DOB: 03/05/1994
 Education: 12th Pass
 Locality: Jhalana Doongri
 Date of joining: 02.09.14
 Date of permanent license: 28.11.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



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For Lalita, getting a permanent driving license was one of the biggest milestones in life. A single parent, 25 year old Lalita has the responsibility of raising a nine year old daughter all by herself. Azad Foundation's training programme kindled a ray of hope in her. Although her mother did not give her whole hearted support, her father and brother encouraged her to go ahead and enroll herself. Lalita was a fast learner and made steady progress. She enjoyed the gender training, primary healthcare and defense training classes the most. She shirked the English communication classes because she did not even know the basic English. Today, Lalita is proud of the fact that she has a permanent driving license.

- 36.** **Name:** Pooja Bansiwali
 DOB: 04/07/1996
 Education: Class 8 pass
 Locality: Jhalana Doongri
 Date of joining: 02.09.2014
 Date of permanent license: 18.12.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



- 37.** **Name:** Rubina Khan
 DOB: 02/02/1995
 Education: 8th Pass
 Locality: Jhalana Doongri
 Date of joining: 02.09.2014
 Date of permanent license: 19.12.2014
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Twenty year old Rubina Khan has studied up to Class X. She came to know about Azad Foundation when its mobilization team visited her neighbourhood. Although she belongs to a conservative family, Rubina's parents did not come in her way and gave her permission to enroll herself for training at Azad Foundation. Rubina was a keen learner and got her permanent license within six months. She feels the training programme at Azad is really useful for women. She admits that she used to be a shy girl earlier but has become an extrovert now. What is more, she has immense confidence in her driving skill.

- 38.** **Name:** Sushila
 DOB: 25/10/1984
 Education: Class 5 pass
 Locality: Jhalana Doongri
 Date of joining: 02.09.2014
 Date of permanent license: 28.11.2014
 Marital status: Married
 No.of children: 2



Sushila, 32, used to run a beauty parlour at home but her income was low. She has studied up to Class VIII. Her husband is a barber. She came across the Azad Foundation team during one of their surveys in the area. She liked the idea as she would get to learn a lot and ultimately earn decent money too. When she broke the news at home, her husband was supportive but her mother-in-law was against the idea. But her husband helped her and she enrolled for the programme. The going was difficult for Sushila in the initial days as she lacked self confidence. She would break into tears every time the trainer reprimanded her. However, at the same time, this trainer reposed a lot of faith in Sushila and told her that she could do it. She is indebted to him for that. Sushila is a confident woman today and has her own permanent driving license.

BATCH 9

- 39.** **Name:** Poonam Nirwan
 DOB: 19/6/1994
 Education: Class 8 pass
 Locality: Jhalana Doongri
 Date of joining: 02.09.14
 Date of permanent license: 19.01.2015
 Marital status: Unmarried
 No. of children: 0



Poonam's life has got a new direction. She had never thought of driving as a profession. She had always wanted to contribute to the family's income but did not know how to do it. Both her parents sell vegetables in a shop. They have always supported the children and their two elder daughters are already married. Poonam did not lose any time in enrolling for the training when she came to know about the whole programme from one of her friends in the locality. Poonam feels very empowered ever since she joined the Azad family because she has learnt a lot, right from self defense to healthcare and women's rights. What excites her the most is the idea of zipping around in the city and being familiar with all the roads.

- Being the eldest of five siblings, 21 year old Sonu felt responsible for the whole family. Her father is a bus driver and she wanted to do something to lessen his burden. Initially, she worked in a call centre but found the job too tedious. So, she quit after some time. During one of their surveys, she happened to interact with one of the mobilization team members of Azad Foundation, who told her of their driving programme for women. Though her family members were apprehensive, she got permission to start the training. Out of all the modules of the six months programme, of course, Sonu enjoyed driving the most. She was elated the day she got her permanent driving license.

- Mamta's parents married her off at the age of 13. All her dreams of a married life were shattered when she finally went to her marital house five years later. Unable to bear the atrocities of her drunkard husband, a labourer, she returned to her parental house. Her father did not welcome her and said she should go back to her rightful place, her husband's house, regardless of the physical abuse. He was afraid she would be a burden on him. But her mother was not in favour of her going back. Mamta came to know about Azad Foundation through her friend. She was very keen on the training as she wanted to be able to take her husband and his parents heads on. Initially, Mamta was very scared to be in a car but after six months of training, all her misgivings vanished. Needless to say, she has a permanent license today.

42.	Name:	Kavita Kumari
	DOB:	10/10/1995
	Education:	Class 12 pass
	Locality:	Jhalana
	Date of joining:	08.10.2014
	Date of permanent license:	28.01.2015
	Marital status:	Unmarried
	No. of children:	0

Kavita Kumari was 20 years old when she came to know about Azad Foundation. Calm and composed by nature, she had no great expectations of life. All she ever wanted was to be able to support her father financially. Being the eldest child, she thought it was her responsibility to help her father, who did odd jobs for a living. Her family rallied around her when she broached the subject of learning how to drive through Azad Foundation. The thought of learning driving and the money she would be able to earn subsequently appealed to her. Now that she has got a permanent licence, Kavita feels very self-confident. The communication skills training has enabled her interact with people easily and of course there is no match to the sense of freedom she gets while driving.

BATCH 10

43.	Name:	Urmila Kumari
	DOB:	06/12/1994
	Education:	Class 10 pass
	Locality:	Malviya Nagar
	Date of joining:	07.11.2014
	Date of permanent license:	
	Marital status:	Married
	No. of children:	2

Urmila had to face a lot of hardships when she stepped out of home to complement her husband's income. He is a mason and they have three sons, so the earnings never match up to the expenditure. Urmila, who is a Class 12 passout first worked as a tourist guide but found it very taxing as she could not pay enough attention to her children. Then she heard about Azad Foundation through a friend. Her husband encouraged her to take on the training and subsequently, work as a driver. He thought it was a respectful job. He would take care of the children while she was away for training. Having completed her training and got her permanent driving licence, Urmila is oozing with self-confidence. What is more, she now wants to study even further.

- 44.**
- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Name: | Amrin Khan |
| DOB: | 17/07/1993 |
| Education: | Class 12 pass |
| Locality: | Ildgah |
| Date of joining: | 07.11.14 |
| Date of permanent license: | |
| Marital status: | Unmarried |
| No. of children: | 0 |

- | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 45. | Name: | Airsi Khan |
| | DOB: | 19/10/1996 |
| | Education: | Class 10 pass |
| | Locality: | Idgah |
| | Date of joining: | 07.11.2014 |
| | Date of permanent license: | |
| | Marital status: | Unmarried |
| | No. of children: | 0 |

Arshi Khan actually owes her permanent driving licence to her mother, Na-seem who enrolled her for the training programme at Azad Foundation. Before this, she used to teach in a neighbourhood school, earning Rs 800 a month. She is a Class X passout. Her father works in a private company. Arshi had to face a lot of hurdles during the course of her training but managed to complete it. She is a direct contrast to her personality before. Earlier, she would hardly express her feelings but now, Arshi does not refrain from voicing her opinion if she sees something wrong happening around her.

46.	Name:	Pinky Devi
	DOB:	01/02/1988
	Education:	10th Pass
	Locality:	Jawahar Nagar
	Date of joining:	07.11.2014
	Date of permanent license:	
	Marital status:	Married
	No. of children:	3

Pinky believes that to move ahead in life one need to keep learning new things. Joining Azad was her attempt to move ahead in life. Her husband also works as a driver and supported her wife to learn this skill. Infact, he himself trains her whenever he gets time. According to Pinky, "When I joined Azad it was the first time I step out of the house to learn something. I was bit hesitant but soon was at ease with everything. I find the atmosphere in Azad very informative. Here I learned so many things which otherwise won't have been possible for me to know while sitting at home. Here, I also get to know about the struggles faced by other trainees in their lives. After coming here I have changed my dressing sense. Now, I remain very conscious of my public image and try to work on it. My relatives are very critical of my training but I have the complete support of my husband and with this I think I can handle everyone. I'm eagerly waiting for the day when I'll start earning along with my husband."

BATCH 11

47.	Name:	Shahjadi
	DOB:	25/06/1994
	Education:	BA Pass
	Locality:	Jhalana
	Date of joining:	09.12.2014
	Date of permanent license:	
	Marital status:	Unmarried
	No. of children:	0

Shehzadi, 19, is the youngest of three sisters and two brothers. Looking at her short height, no one was convinced that she would actually be able to drive a car. But she proved them all wrong when she not only managed to complete her training on time but also got her permanent license. When she brought up the subject of her joining Azad, her father readily agreed but her mother was reluctant. She said that women in their community don't go out to work and driving was out of the question. Anyway, Shehzadi managed to convince her mother ultimately agreed. Shehzadi enjoyed all the training modules in Azad and the whole learning process. She is very excited about the idea of driving a car on the city roads.



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